

Script

MORNING

DELWARE

ACRE.

37.

Second-class matter

DECEMBER 9, 1911

[Communicated]
GIVE US A TUNNEL

Since the railroad Company solely for its own convenience that it might run trains both ways at once through the town, placed that fence between the two tracks, travel convenience will now have become simply intolerable. It is almost a daily occurrence that travelers going South are forced to miss their trains by reason of a freight train obstructing the passage.

Then passengers arriving early to await the passage of the train before crossing the track to get to their homes. The other day a number of persons were forced to wait 10 minutes after their arrival until a long freight train had gotten away before they could enter the town.

How about the time to be severe or neglectful and their number large, as it often is, even the narrow walk and road would not have been large enough to shield them from the elements.

Then too anyone having business in the freight depot must either climb over the fence or walk a long distance around it, on the balmy stones and ties.

When a tunnel underneath the tracks, as at Dover, is suggested, the Company's officials use the quibble that such a tunnel would be too damp and so could not be built. One of the leading citizens of our town went off with this foolish answer recently.

(For years Middletown, like one of the best paying stations on the road, has endured with a patience more and more abused by the Company, many travel inconveniences and discomforts at its station. Insufficient lights; a dirty old barn of a depot that gave the town a left hand advertisement in the eyes of every stranger viewing it; highway travel for long periods obstructed by the company's freight trains which they refused to open; a waiting station which was a mere wreck exposing the want of proper accommodations for the traveling public such as toilet, and drinking; slopoe and muddy approaches to the station etc. For years these and other nuisances have been borne and till lately no redress given to any of them.

True your journal and a few indignant individuals have protested. And the "Daily News" has taken up the cause and attacks on their abuses some of them have been removed in part remedied.

But now the railroad Company is admitting directly the detention of passengers arriving and in causing others to miss their trains by obstructing their way to the South track.

A tunnel is needed to remedy both these inconveniences, and something ought to be done to end this hateful imposition.

Mr. Editor cannot something be done by the Town Commissioners the Board of Trade and the citizens at large? Let us call the people together in a mass meeting in the Town Hall and take steps to compel this railroad Company to treat the town with decency and justice. I wish your journal would again take the matter up.

OLD TRAVELER.

It would be almost impossible for you to want anything in men's Furnishing Line that you can't find at Messick's. Read these unexpected values in our medium weight Underwear, don't overlook that, just the right weight for cool mornings, 50c to \$1.00.

William B. Kates
Wholesale and Retail Manufacturer of
Ice Cream, Water Ice
ALL FLAVORS
Fine Confections constantly on Hand.
Also Oysters in Season

MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

H. W. Vandever Co.,
809 Market Street
WILMINGTON, DEL.

Charles Schuman
Hand-Made Harness
Repairing a Specialty

West Main Street
MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

M. BANNING
East Main Street Market
DEALER IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Now we are all ready for the Xmas trade, come and look our goods over for yourself. We have all the things necessary for fruit cake and mincemeat making.

Fere gun and domestic fruits and vegetables fresh on hand at all times. Fancy Box Candy, in 1, 2 and 5 lb. boxes are something far ahead of anything we ever had before. Also our chocolate candies, mixtures, taffies and conserves fruits are fine this time.

Don't forget our toy room on second floor. Here are some of the things you will find there: sleds, express wagons, machine toys, books, games, work baskets, dolls, vases, jardinières, fancy handkerchiefs, neckwear, drums, musical toys. Xmas tree trimmings and several other things too numerous to mention.

You will also find a full line of good things in our grocery store. Large assortment of canned fruits, vegetables, plum pudding, olive oil, salad dressing and everything that goes to make up a first-class grocery.

M. BANNING
Phone 60
East Main St.
Middletown, Delaware

John Heldmyer, Jr.
Fancy- and Staple Groceries
FRESH AND SALT MEATS

Make of Fresh Sausage a Specialty
PRICES PAID FOR FRESH EGGS.
Two per cent. off for CASH.
MIDDLETOWN, DEL.

SUGGESTIONS For XMAS

Bicycles
Columbia, Pierce, Racycle and Iver Johnson, \$20, \$25, \$30, \$35, \$40, \$45, \$50, \$75. Some good bargains in Second hand. Bicycle Tires, Gas and Oil Lamps, Cyclometers, Mud Guards. Foot Pumps, etc.

Velocipedes and Tricycles.

Sweaters
Soles agents in Wilmington for A. G. Spalding & Bros' Lamb's Wool Sweaters, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$6.50, \$7.50 and \$8.00. Cotton and All-wool Jerseys.

Pocket Knives

We have a first-class line of Penknives, 25 cents to \$5.00.

Carving Sets, \$2.00 to \$5.00.

College Pennants

Striking Bag Platforms, complete with bag, \$7.50, \$8.50, \$9.00, \$12.00 and \$15.00.

Boxing Bags, \$1.50 to \$7.00.

Boxing Gloves, \$1.50 to \$7.00.

Flash Lights, 50 cents to \$7.50.

Polo and Hockey Sticks.

Razors

Auto Strop Razor, \$5.00, \$6.50 and \$7.50.

Gillette Safety R. z. r. S. r. \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.50.

Keen Kotter Safety Razr Sets, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50.

Ender Safety Razrs, \$1.00 per set.

Regular Razrs, 75 cents to \$3.50.

Leslie Combined R. z. r. and Stropper, \$5.00 and \$7.50.

Clark R. z. r. \$1.00.

Razor Supplies.

Skates

Ice Skates, 75 cents, \$1.00, \$1.50 to \$5.00.

Roller Skates, 50 cents, 75 cents \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.50 and \$3.50.

Golf Balls.

Basket Balls and Suits.

Suction Shoes.

Whittle Exercisers, \$1.25, \$2.00 \$3.00, \$4.50. Other makes \$1 to \$5.

Bubber Quoits, \$1.50 and \$2.00 per set.

Pal Quoits, \$1.00 per set.

Other games, \$1.50 to \$6.00.

Footballs, \$1 to \$5

Football Clothing and Supplies.

Fencing Fids.

Masks and Gloves.

Tennis Racquets.

Gymnasium Shoes.

Water Pistols, 50 cents.

Thermos Bottles, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$3.75 and \$5.75.

Irregular Marches, \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00 and \$2.50.

Luggins, 50 cents, 75 cents, \$1.00, \$2.00 and \$3.50.

Anything and everything for baseball.

Genuine Flexible Flyer Sleds, Best Sled Made

\$2.50 to \$12

ALWAYS IN THE LEAD

The J. E. Baker Co. Now offers for Sale
Victor FineGround Limestone

The Best Way to Lime

The United States Government and the Pennsylvania Agricultural Experimental Station are now recommending finely Ground Limestone as the best way of applying Lime to the soil. It does not destroy manure, there is no danger of burning your crops, it keeps for years, and can be applied at any time, or season.

Easiest and Cheapest to Use

Comes packed in canvas bags or paper bags. Can be easily handled, and kept in storage indefinitely, without change or loss. No more laborious slaking, no more choking dust, nor burning burns. Can be drilled into the soil or sowed on the surface and harrowed in. Saves half the cost of the old way of applying Lime. Is cheaper and better.

GIVES MAXIMUM RESULTS

It has been proved that very finely Ground Lime-stone produces as a fertilizer the same results pound for pound as air slaked Lime, or any other commercial fertilizer, and because VICTOR fine Ground Limestone is the purest, most finely ground Limestone on the market and because it destroys no manure or crop, it gives much better results than any other burned or hydrated Lime made.

See your Local Agent or write.

J. E. Baker Company
York, Pa.

Milk and Butter Prices

Are higher than they have been for a great many years and, of course, feed prices will naturally follow.

Better lay in your supply before they go higher.

Coton Seed Meal	\$34.00
Boveta Hull and Meal Mixture	26.00
Bran	29.50
Sucrene Dairy Feed	28.50
Sucrene Horse and Mule Feed	31.00
Blatchford's Calf Meal	41-2 lb

A discount of from \$1.00 to \$3.00 per ton to our milk patrons.

MIDDLETOWN FARMS, Inc.

Pictures for Xmas Gifts

Come and see our Fine Display of Famous Artists Work in Pictures

LARGEST assortment of pictures ever displayed in this town. Come and select your Xmas Gifts.

Special prices for the Holidays only:

Fine Pearl Paintings, size 28x27, only \$1.89

" " " 19x31, " " " 1.65

Landscape Etchings, " 14x28, " " " .98

Fine Work in Pastels, " 10x24, " " " .98

Reproduction of Underwood, Fishers and Christy's fine work, in all sizes, at the very lowest prices, great bargains in large and small pictures for 10c, 15c, 25c and 30c each.

We have the best Dolls for the Prices Tree Trimming and Toys

Peterson's Department Store
MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE

NEWARK TRUST & SAFE DEPOSIT CO.

Newark, Delaware

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO BANK DEPOSITORS

It is our desire at this time to respectfully call your kind attention to the many unusual benefits to be gained by banking with this company. For your careful consideration we would state that:

1st.—We allow 4 per cent. Interest in our Savings Department on Accounts of \$1.00 and upwards.

2d.—We pay 2 per cent. on all Checking Accounts.

Also that we are a U. S. Depository for Postal Savings.

If this book is safe for Uncle Sam it is safe for you.

by Mail

Christmas Goods AT COST

"How can that be!" exclaims a surprised customer.

"Purely as an advertisement of our business." To draw a big crowd of Holiday buyers, seeking to avail themselves of this unusual offer, will pay us more in the end than all the profits we would make on our Holiday Goods."

That is why Fogel & Burstan make this "New Departure" in Christmas goods—we repeat it, all Holiday goods sold for bare cost, freight and handling. We also do this in order to please old friends and to make new ones.

Come and see our store with its big display of handsome Holiday Goods of all kinds. Bring your little ones and let them enjoy the sight of hundreds of toys and pretty gifts, etc.

We have the largest assortment of Christmas goods of every kind, including Toys, Art Goods, Chinaware, Fancy Leather Goods, Games, Books, etc.

Instead of shopping from one place to another, come in here and see it all, not only Toys but presents for every member of the family from tree ornaments to a fine fur coat. We guarantee to give you better service during the Holiday rush than any other store.

Our past dealing assures the public that our statements are true; but compare prices elsewhere with the following REDUCED FIGURES for all our holiday Goods.

ALPHABETICAL LIST

Of Useful, Ornamental and Amusing Gifts for every member of the family, from tot to grandmother, for parents, children and friends.

A

Air Rifles, from 25c to 75c
Airships, " 25c to 50c
Albums, " 20c to \$1.00
Autos 50c

B

Bed Spreads 85c to \$3.00
Blackboards 25c to 75c
Blankets 50c to \$6.00
Bags (hand) 25c to \$2.00
Boys' Caps 25c to 75c

" Suits, Overcoats \$1.25 to 6.00

" Shoes \$1.00 to 3.00

" Hosiery 10c to 25c

Books, all kinds 15c to 25c

Blocks

The Middletown Transcript

Mails Close as Follows.

Going North—7:25 a. m., 10:05 a. m., 4:05 p. m., p. m. and 8 p. m.; 4:15 p. m., and 9 p. m. For Odessa—7:50 a. m., 8:30 a. m., 11:30 a. m., 1 p. m., 4:15 p. m., 4:45 p. m.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL., DEC. 9, 1911

LOCAL NEWS

Fresh Pork, Lamb, Beef and Veal, At Sherrives' MEAT MARKET.

Wagons and Dearborns for sale. J. C. GREEN.

The best steak, roasts, lamb and veal, at W. C. Jones'.

FRESH and SALT FISH at my store at all times. W. C. JONES.

Wagons and Dearborns for sale. J. C. GREEN.

WANTED—A 7 foot floor counter. Also a marble slab. T. G. TONKEY.

FOR SALE—Rhode Island Red and Barred Rock Cockerels.

Mrs. G. B. W. RHODES.

The highest cash price paid for hides of all kinds. At Sherrives' MEAT MARKET

HIDES WANTED.—The highest cash price paid for horse and cow hides. W. C. JONES.

Chickens, Eggs, and everything usually found in an up-to-date meat market. At Sherrives' MEAT MARKET

FOR SALE—A few choice White Rock Cockerels. Apply to S. F. SHALLCROSS Odesa, Del.

A large assortment of fancy bags, towels both Royal and D. M. C. packages suitable for Christmas gifts. Mrs. J. H. EMERSON.

FOR SALE—A thoroughbred Holstein Bull, 2 years old. C. M. C. CHURCH Middletown, Del.

Do not neglect your teeth; A little attention now may save you much pain and expense in the future. Dr. J. ALLEN JOHNSON, Middletown, Del.

FOR SALE—About 500 telephone poles, running in length from 25 to 45 feet, also white oak piling. Geo. W. HUARD, McDonough, Del.

Real Estate Broker E. H. Beck has beautified his residence on West Main street with a fresh coat of paint.

RESIDENCE FOR SALE—The house where I live. Price and terms may be had by inquiring of Jos. C. PARKER.

Mr. W. T. Johnson has moved his cigar and tobacco store from East Main street, to the store room adjoining Mr. John Clift, on North Broad street.

LOST—English setter puppy, six months old, white with black spots on tail. Liberal reward if returned to John J. Jolls, Middletown, Del.

DRESS MAKING—Mrs. Custer has ed on East Main Street opposite the blacksmith shop, where she will do kind of dress making and tailoring.

HIGH GRADE LEHIGH COAL, sizes ALWAYS in stock and under cover. Guaranteed free from dirt. Oak Wood fit the stove. Phone 6 and 48.

JESSE L. SHEPHERD.

The pupils of the four lower grades of the Middletown Public Schools are rehearsing their Christmas program which will be published in the TRANSCRIPT at a later date.

Mr. R. Cochran has moved from his fine farm two miles north of Middletown to the residence which he recently purchased of Mrs. M. J. Darlington on Green street.

The P. B. & W. Railroad Company is improving the side walk on the west side of the tracks at the main street crossing by having laid a new five foot concrete walk 80 feet in length.

HORSES CLIPPED—I wish to inform the public that I am prepared to clip horses in an up-to-date manner on short notice. J. Z. CHROSLAND, Middletown Hotel Stables.

I wish to inform the public that I have installed two telephones, one in my residence and one in my Feed Exchange in Middletown. All phone orders will receive prompt attention. D. R. REED.

After October first, the library hours will be—Tuesdays, 3:30 to 5; Fridays, 7 to 8:30; Saturdays 3 to 5. The library will be open on Tuesday evenings for school children exclusively.

CHIROPRACTIC—Appointments can be made at the "Middletown Hotel". December 14th, for Chiropody and Manicuring, by Elizabeth Haasman from Fowler and Henn's, Philadelphia Pa.

The first snow of the season fell in this section Monday morning, when for several hours the flakes fell and covered mother earth with a soft white mantle of snow, which disappeared in a few hours.

Give your little girl a \$10 Doll by receiving free the lucky purchase ticket at the Fogel and Bursten Department Store. Read their Alphabetic list of Xmas goods sold AT COST, and the article about the \$10 Doll prize.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be administered in the Forest Presbyterian Church on to-morrow, Sunday morning; and the session will meet in the library room on to-morrow at 10:15 o'clock to receive those desiring to unite with the Church.

At the third Quarterly Conference of Betheda M. E. Church, District Superintendent Robert W. Pates presiding, held on Tuesday morning, Dr. Vaughan S. Collin, pastor of Betheda M. E. Church, was unanimously voted to return as pastor for the fourth year.

Uncanceled Letters—The following list of letters remains uncanceled in the post office for the week ending Nov. 30th: Mrs. D. M. Anderson, Miss Marie Boyer and Mrs. William Rough. Messrs. Buckley, George Henry, Prof. T. E. Madday, Mr. W. L. Mansell and Mr. T. L. Rhodes.

On Friday evening a

A CARNIVAL OF CRIME

On Saturday Constable John W. Dickens took five men to the workhouse, four of whom colored men charged with various offenses.

Hayward Spittel, the colored youth who two weeks ago struck Mr. S. M. Rosenberg when he and another man were detected by him stealing some caps in his store.

Chief Harry H. Hilyard and Constable Dickens arrived at the workhouse, led in by the constable, Darrington's Corner; Squire A. Cox held in \$200 bail to answer to the next term of court. James Daniel was arrested for disorderly conduct and for carrying steel knuckles and was held in \$200, to answer for the last offence to the higher court.

Wilson Daniels, also colored, was fined \$3 and costs for drunkenness and in default of payment was sent to the workhouse.

Joseph Red, a colored man from Blackbird, was caught stealing conductor Fleming's dinner and lunch box. On the man was found a razor and in his suit case five quarts of gin and one of whiskey. He was fined \$50 at the last term of Court for selling boot-leg liquor.

Squire Cox held him in \$200 bail for carrying a concealed deadly weapon.

George Glass was taken up with the others in default of \$200 bail for assaulting officer Aiswell on Thanksgiving night.

James Foraker, a white man, was fined \$3 for drunkenness and paid his fine.

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OUR FRIENDS AND VISITORS

Personal Items About People You See and Know

Mrs. Frank Gallagher spent Wednesday in Wilmington.

Mrs. L. E. Barrett at Chestertown, Md.

Charles Ritchie, Shelye, Charles and William Meyers spent last week at Doylestown, Pa.

Mr. Charles Cranor, of near Chester, Md., is visiting his daughter, Mrs. John L. Byron.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Pogue, of Wilmington, were Thanksgiving guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Cox.

Miss Mary Bishop, of Wilmington, was the guest of the Misses Webe several days this week.

Mr. M. N. Willits Jr., his wife and children were guests of his father and sisters on Sunday.

W. L. Marker and family, of near Clayton, were Sunday visitors at Mr. William Bryson's next town.

Mrs. A. K. Hopkins spent several days of this week with her sister Mrs. M. J. Darlington, of Chadds Ford.

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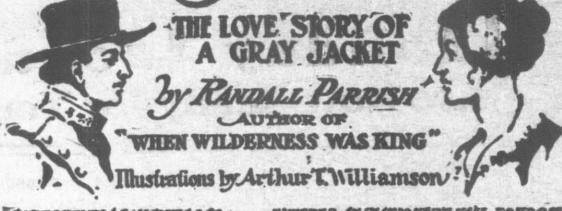
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My Lady of the North



THE LOVE STORY OF
A GRAY JACKET
by RANDALL PARSONS
AUTHOR OF
"WHEN WILDERNESS WAS KING"
Illustrations by Arthur C. Williamson

COPYRIGHT BY A. C. WILLIAMSON & CO. ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL, LONDON.

CHAPTER XVI.

The Woman I Loved.

The crucial moment had arrived, and I think my heart actually stopped beating as I stood gazing helplessly into her face. I saw her eyes open wide in astonished recognition, and then a deep flush swept over her cheek. For the instant I believed she would not speak, or that she would give way to her excitement and betray everything. I durst give no signal of warning, for there existed no tie between us to warrant my expecting any consideration from her. It was an instant so tense that her silence seemed like a blow. Yet it was only an instant. Then her eyes smiled into mine most frankly, and her hand was extended.

"I am more than delighted to meet you, Colonel Curran," she said calmly, although I could feel her lips tremble at the words, while the fingers I held were like ice. "Myrie was one of my dearest friends, and she chanced to be in my mind even as we met. That was why," she added, turning toward Miss Minor, as though she felt her momentary agitation had not passed unnoticed, "I was so surprised when you first presented Colonel Curran."

"I confess to having felt strangely myself," returned the other, archly, "although I believe I concealed my feelings far better than you did, Edith. Really, I thought you were going to faint. It must be that Colonel Curran exercises some strange occult influence over the weaker sex. Perhaps he is the seventh son of a seventh son; are you, Colonel? However, dear, I am safe for the present from his mysterious spell, and you will be compelled to face the danger alone, as here comes Lieutenant Hammersham to claim the dance. I've promised him."

Before Mrs. Brennan could interfere, the laughing girl had placed her hand on the Lieutenant's blue sleeve, and, with a mocking good-bye flung back over her shoulder, vanished in the crowd, leaving us standing there alone.

The lady waited in much apparent indifference, gently tapping the floor with her neatly shod foot.

"Would you be exceedingly angry if I were to ask you to dance?" I questioned, stealing surreptitiously a glance at her slightly averted face.

"Angry? Most assuredly not," in apparent surprise. "Yet I trust you will not ask me. I have been upon the floor only once to-night. I am not at all in the mood."

"If there were chairs here I should venture to ask even a greater favor—that you would consent to sit out this set with me."

She turned slightly, lifted her eyes inquisitorily to mine, and her face tightened.

"No doubt we might discover seats without difficulty in the anteroom," she answered, indicating the direction by a glance. "There do not appear to be many 'sitters' at this ball, and the few who do are not crowded."

The apartment contained, as she prophesied, but few occupants, and I conducted her to the farther end of it, where we found a comfortable divan and no troublesome neighbors.

As I glanced at her now, I marked a distinct change in her face. The old indifference, so well assumed while we were in the presence of others, had utterly vanished as by magic, and she sat looking at me in anxious yet impetuous questioning.

"Captain Wayne," she exclaimed, her eyes never once leaving my face, "what does this mean? This masquerade? This wearing of the Federal uniform? This taking of another's name? This being here at all?"

"I should say that I came hoping to see you again," I answered, scarce knowing how best to proceed or how far to put confidence in her, "what would you think?"

"That is true, that you were extremely foolish to take such a risk for so small a reward," she returned calmly. "Nor, under these circumstances, would I remain here so much as a moment to encourage you. But it is not true. This is no light act; your very life must lie in the balance, or you could never assume such risk."

"I would trust you gladly with my life or my honor," I replied soberly. "If I had less faith in you I should not be here now. I understand that I am condemned to be shot as a spy at daybreak."

"Shot? On what authority? Who told you?"

"On the order of General Sheridan. My informant was Lieutenant Caton, of his staff."

"Shot? As a spy? Why, surely not! Frank said—Captain Wayne, believe me, I knew absolutely nothing of all this. Do you think I should ever have rested if I had dreamed that you were held under so false a charge? I promised you I would see General Sheridan on your behalf. Frank—" she bit her lip impatiently. "I was told, that is, I was led to believe that you were—he had been sent North as a prisoner of war late last night. Otherwise I should have insisted upon seeing you—on pleading your cause with the General himself. The major and I breakfasted with him this morning, but your name was not mentioned, for I believed you were."

She did not appear to realize, so deep was her present indignation and regret, that my hand had found a resting place upon her own.

"You must believe me, Captain Wayne; I could not bear to have you feel that I could prove such an ingrate."

"You need never suppose I should think that," I replied with an earnestness of manner that caused her to glance at me in surprise. "I confidently expected to hear from you all day, and finally when no word came, I became convinced some such misconception as you have mentioned must have occurred. Then it became my turn to act upon my own behalf if I would preserve my life; yet never for one moment have I doubted you or the sincerity of your pledge to me."

She waited quietly while a couple passed us and sought seats nearer the door.

"Tell me the entire story," she said gently.

As quickly as possible I reviewed the salient events which had occurred since our last meeting. Without denying the presence of Major Brennan during the meeting with General Sheridan, I did not dwell upon it, nor mention the personal affair that had occurred between us. Edith had not supposed the man to be her husband and I should never have taken advantage of his treachery to advance my own cause. As I concluded there was a tear glistening on her long lashes, but she seemed unconscious of it, and made no attempt to dash it away.

"You have not told me all," she commented quietly. "But I can understand and appreciate the reason for your silence. I know Frank's impetuosity, and you are very kind, Captain Wayne, to spare my feelings, but you must not remain here; every moment of delay increases your danger. Sheridan and those of his staff who would surely recognize you were expected back before this, and may appear at any moment—yet how can you get away? how is it possible for me to get away?"

"May I ask your full name and rank, Colonel?"

"Patrick L. Curran, Colonel, Sixth Ohio Light Artillery."

He wrote it down rapidly, tore off the paper, and handed it to me.

"That will take you safely through our inner guard lines," he said gravely, "that being as far as my jurisdiction extends. Good-night, Colonel; good-night, Mrs. Brennan."

We bowed ceremoniously, and the next moment Mrs. Brennan and I were out upon the steps, breathing the cool night air. I gazed curiously at her face as the gleam of light fell upon it—how calm and reserved she appeared, and yet her eyes were aglow with intense excitement. At the foot of the steps she glanced up at the dark, projecting roof far above us.

"Do you suppose he can possibly be up there yet?" she asked, in a tone so low as to be inaudible to the ears of the sentry.

"Have you formulated any plan?" she asked quickly, and her rising color made me feel that she had deciphered my struggle in my eyes.

"Only to walk out under protection of this uniform, and when once in the open to trust that same good fortune which has thus far befriended me."

She shook her head doubtfully, and stood a moment in silence, looking thoughtfully at the moving figures in the room beyond.

"I fear it cannot be done without arousing suspicion," she said at last, slowly. "I chance to know there are unusual precautions being taken to-night, and the entire camp is doubly patrolled. Even this house has a cordon of guards about it, but for what reason I have not learned. No, she spoke decisively, "there is no other way. Captain Wayne, I am going to try to save you tonight, but in doing so I must trust my reputation in your keeping."

"I will protect it with my life."

"Protect it with your silence, rather. I know you to be a gentleman, or I should never attempt to carry out the only means of escape which seems at all feasible. Discovery would place me in an extremely embarrassing position, and I must rely upon you to protect me from such a possibility."

"I beg you," I began, "do not compromise yourself in any way for my sake."

"But I am myself already deeply involved in this," she interrupted, "and I could retain no peace of mind were I to do otherwise. Now listen. Make your way back to the ballroom, and in fifteen minutes from now go engaged in conversation with General Carleton near the main entrance. I shall join you there, and you will find that you would consent to sit out this set with me."

She turned slightly, lifted her eyes inquisitorily to mine, and her face tightened.

"No doubt we might discover seats without difficulty in the anteroom," she answered, indicating the direction by a glance. "There do not appear to be many 'sitters' at this ball, and the few who do are not crowded."

The apartment contained, as she prophesied, but few occupants, and I conducted her to the farther end of it, where we found a comfortable divan and no troublesome neighbors.

As I glanced at her now, I marked a distinct change in her face. The old indifference, so well assumed while we were in the presence of others, had utterly vanished as by magic, and she sat looking at me in anxious yet impetuous questioning.

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"I would trust you gladly with my life or my honor," I replied soberly.

"If I had less faith in you I should not be here now. I understand that I am condemned to be shot as a spy at daybreak."

"Shot? On what authority? Who told you?"

"On the order of General Sheridan. My informant was Lieutenant Caton, of his staff."

"Shot? As a spy? Why, surely not!"

Our eyes met for an instant; what she read in mine God knows—in hers was determination, with a daring strange to woman. The next moment she had vanished through a side door, and I was alone.

I was still, listening intently.

"Perfectly, but—"

"There can not be fail," Captain Wayne.

"We are returning from the officers' ball," she urged anxiously, "and are one way to Major Brennan's quarters. We have passed."

As she drew the paper from out her glove, one of the men at the fire sprang to his feet and strode across the narrow road toward us. He was smooth of face and boyish looking, but wore corporal's stripes.

"What is it, Mapes?" he asked sharply.

Without waiting an answer he took the paper she held out and scanned it rapidly.

"This is all right," he said, holding it back, and lifting his cap in salute.

"You may pass, madam. You must pardon us, but the orders are exceedingly strict to-night. Have you a pass also, Colonel?" I handed it to him, and after a single glance it was returned.

"Pass them, guard," he said curtly, standing aside.

Beyond the radiance of the fire she broke the silence.

"I shall only be able to go with you so far as the summit of the hill beyond, for our quarters are just to the right, and I could furnish no excuse for being found beyond that point," she said. "Do you know enough of the country to make the lines of your army?"

"If this is the Kendallville pike we are on," I answered, "I have a pretty clear conception of what lies ahead, but I should be very glad to know where I am to look for the outer pickets."

"Oh, General, I am exceedingly glad to find you yet here, she exclaimed as she came up, and extended her hand, which I clasped to him. "I have a favor to ask which I am told you alone have the authority to grant."

He bowed gallantly.

"I am very sure," he returned smilingly, "that Mrs. Brennan will never request anything which I would not gladly yield."

She flamed her eyes brightly into his.

"Most assuredly not. The fact is, General, Colonel Curran, with whom I see you are already acquainted, was to pass the night at the fort, and the duty of escorting him fell to me. We are to remain there until morning, and remember that I have the command of my company."

"You need never suppose I should think that," I replied with an earnestness of manner that caused her to glance at me in surprise. "I confidently expected to hear from you all day, and finally when no word came, I became convinced some such misconception as you have mentioned must have occurred. Then it became my turn to act upon my own behalf if I would preserve my life; yet never for one moment have I doubted you or the sincerity of your pledge to me."

been furnished with a pass," she held up the paper for his inspection, "and have been also instructed as to the countersign, I fear this will scarcely suffice for the safe passage of the Colonel."

The General laughed good-humoredly, easily pleased with her assumption of military knowledge.

"Colonel Curran is certainly to be congratulated upon having found so

clattered by, their heads bent low to the wind, and seemingly oblivious to all save the movements of their leader.

"Sheridan!" I whispered, for even in that dimness I had not failed to recognize the short, erect figure which rode in front.

The woman shuddered, and drew closer within my protecting shadow.

Then out of the darkness there burst a solitary rider, his horse limping as if crippled, and would have ridden us down, had I not flung up my bridle-rein.

"Great Scott! what have we here?" he cried roughly, peering down at us. "By all the gods, a woman!"

The hand upon my arm clutched me desperately, and my own heart seemed to choke back every utterance. The voice was Brennan's.

CHAPTER XVII.

The Reputation of a Woman.

Like a flash occurred to me the only possible means by which we might escape—discovery—an instant disclosure of my supposed rank, coupled with indignant protest. Already, believing me merely a private soldier straying out of bounds with a woman of the camp as companion, he had thrown himself from the saddle to investigate. Whatever was to be done must be accomplished quickly, or it would prove all too late. To think

charming a guide, madam, and I can assure you I shall most gladly do my part toward the success of the expedition. The Major was expected back before this, I believe?"

"He left word that if he had not returned by twelve I was to wait for him no longer, as he would go directly to his quarters. I find the life of a soldier to be extremely uncertain."

"We are our country's servants, madam," he replied proudly, and then taking out a pad of blanks from his pocket, turned to me.

"May I ask your full name and rank, Colonel?"

"Patrick L. Curran, Colonel, Sixth Ohio Light Artillery."

He wrote it down rapidly, tore off the paper, and handed it to me.

"That will take you safely through our inner guard lines," he said gravely, "that being as far as my jurisdiction extends. Good-night, Colonel; good-night, Mrs. Brennan."

We bowed ceremoniously, and the next moment Mrs. Brennan and I were out upon the steps, breathing the cool night air. I gazed curiously at her face as the gleam of light fell upon it—how calm and reserved she appeared, and yet her eyes were aglow with intense excitement. At the foot of the steps she glanced up at the dark, projecting roof far above us.

"Do you suppose he can possibly be up there yet?" she asked, in a tone so low as to be inaudible to the ears of the sentry.

"Who's bungay?" I questioned in surprise, for I knew her to be a cat, and there are cats at the rear. Probably she arose to her feet almost haughtily. "My sole thought in this is the terrible risk you incur in remaining here."

"Your interest then is personal to me, may I believe?"

"I am a loyal woman," proudly, "and would do nothing whatever to imperil the cause of my country; but your condemnation is unjust, and I am, in a measure, responsible for it. I assist you, Captain Wayne, for your own sake, and in response to my individual sense of honor."

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